AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1923

Introduced by Assembly Member Nation

January 31, 2006

An act to add Section 906 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to military benefits.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1923, as amended, Nation. Military and veterans: educational benefits.

Existing law provides certain benefits for qualifying members of the California National Guard.

This bill would prohibit any campus of the *University of California*, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges from charging any tuition or fees, as specified, to any qualified member, as defined. These provisions would only apply to the University of California to the extent the regents make them applicable by resolution.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as
- 2 The California National Guard Education Assistance Act of
- 3 2006.
- 4 SEC. 2. Section 906 is added to the Military and Veterans
- 5 Code, to read:

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906. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no campus of the California State University or the California Community Colleges shall charge any mandatory systemwide campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges shall charge any mandatory systemwide tuition or fees, including enrollment fees, registration fees, differential fees, or incidental fees, to any qualified member.

- (b) A qualified member shall receive up to 60 units of tuition and fee waivers for every three years that he or she has committed to serve in the California National Guard.
- (c) The total amount of tuition and fee waivers authorized by this section shall not exceed 120 units per qualified member.

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- (d) For purposes of the section, "qualified member" means a person who:
- (1) Is currently a member of the California National Guard, and maintains satisfactory service throughout the period that he or she receives educational assistance under this section.
- (1) Has served or is currently serving in the California National Guard, and has maintained satisfactory service throughout the period that qualifies him or her for educational assistance under this section.
- (2) Has committed to at least-five three years of service in the California National Guard.
- (3) Is accepted for enrollment at any campus of the California State University or the California Community Colleges.
- (c) A qualified member shall utilize the educational assistance authorized by this section within 10 years from the date that he or she enlisted in the California National Guard.
- (d) Any qualified member who is dismissed from any campus of the California State University or the California Community Colleges due to poor academic performance shall not be eligible to receive the educational assistance under this section in the future.
- (3) Is accepted for enrollment at any campus of the University
 of California, the California State University, or the California
 Community Colleges.
- 39 (e) Any person who joined the California National Guard 40 prior to January 1, 2007, shall be required to reenlist in the

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California National Guard for at least three additional years, in order to receive the educational assistance under this section.

- (f) Any qualified member who is dismissed from any campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges due to poor academic performance shall not be eligible to receive the educational assistance under this section in the future.
- (g) Any qualified member who receives educational assistance under this section and fails to fulfill his or her commitment to the California National Guard, shall pay to the General Fund an amount equal to the value of the tuition and fees waived under this section.

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- (h) The Military Department shall determine whether an individual meets the requirements of "qualified member" as set forth in subdivision (b).
- 17 (i) No provision of this section shall apply to the University of 18 California except to the extent that the Regents of the University 19 of California, by appropriate resolution, make that provision 20 applicable.